

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Notice of Allowance issued on June 5, 2008. After a thorough review of the allowed claims, Applicant is submitting this amendment to correct a claim formatting error present in the last amendment dated March 18, 2008. As such, claims 1 and 9 have been amended to include a limitation that was previously inadvertently omitted in the amendment of March 18, 2008. This inadvertent omission from claims 1 and 9 was not shown in strikethrough font and was simply deleted. The current amendment to claims 1 and 9 simply adds back the same language that was previously inadvertently deleted. Furthermore, the language added back into the claims was previously held allowable with the addition of a new element from allowable claim 3 (i.e. the Examiner held claim 3 allowable if it was rewritten in independent form with the intervening claims). The Applicant inadvertently left out an element of independent claim 1 when rewriting allowable claim 3 into independent claim 1. Similarly, the Applicant inadvertently left out an element of independent claim 9 when rewriting allowable claim 11 into independent claim 9. The addition of the claim language back into the claim is also consistent with our remarks of March 18, 2008, where we stated "Claim 1 has been rewritten to include the allowable features of claim 3 and claim 9 has been rewritten to include the allowable features of claim 11". Therefore, we simply incorrectly transcribed independent claims 1 and 9 when adding elements of claims 3 and 11, and now have corrected these errors with the current amendment.

Also, claims 2, 6, 10, and 14 were previously cancelled (in an amendment of September 24, 2007, but were not indicated as cancelled in the amendment on March 18, 2008). Therefore, in this amendment, they are now correctly labeled as cancelled.

Claims 4 and 12 have been cancelled to omit redundant claim language since the claims are not further limiting. Claims 8 and 16, which were dependent upon claims 4 and 12 respectively, have also been canceled.

Applicant again thanks the Examiner for the Notice of Allowance issued on June 5, 2008, and earnestly seeks timely allowance of all corrected claims.

If it is determined that a telephone or personal conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 referencing docket no. 2936-0209P.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael R. Cammarata, Reg. No. 39,491 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: August 1, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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